

Claims

- [c1] A method of asset location, comprising the steps of:
 - linking at least one portable transmitter system with a selected asset;
 - initiating a cellular communication from the at least one portable transmission system to an associated device controller;
 - communicating to the device controller primary location information representative of a cellular area from which the cellular communication is made;
 - initiating a secondary location system in accordance with the location information;
 - broadcasting secondary location information from the at least one portable transmission system; and
 - receiving secondary location information into a tracking system.
- [c2] The method of asset location of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - comparing the primary location information with data of a geographic database so as to isolate a geographic area of interest;
 - generating map information relating to the primary loca-

tion information; and
initiating receipt of the secondary location information in accordance with the geographic area of interest.

- [c3] The method of asset location of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating the secondary location information in accordance with satellite data obtained from an associated global positioning system.
- [c4] The method of asset location of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining, in the tracking system, a location of the selected asset in accordance with data generated as a function of a strength of a signal associated with the secondary location information received therein.
- [c5] The method of asset location of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining a location of the selected asset in accordance with the secondary location data which is generated mathematically from a signal associated with the secondary location information as received by a plurality of associated receiving stations.
- [c6] The method of asset location of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
simultaneously monitoring a plurality of portable transmission system communications; and

generating fee data representative of each of a plurality of monitored portable data transmissions.

- [c7] The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of selectively communicating at least one of the primary and secondary location information to a law enforcement authority in order to track the asset that is determined to be stolen.
- [c8] A system of asset location, comprising:
 - means adapted for linking at least one portable transmitter system with a selected asset;
 - means adapted for initiating a cellular communication from the at least one portable transmission system to an associated device controller;
 - means adapted for communicating to the device controller primary location information representative of a cellular area from which the cellular communication is made;
 - means adapted for initiating a secondary location system in accordance with the location information;
 - means adapted for broadcasting secondary location information from the at least one portable transmission system; and
 - means adapted for receiving secondary location information into a tracking system.

- [c9] The system of asset location of claim 8, further comprising:
 - means adapted for comparing the primary location information with data of a geographic database so as to isolate a geographic area of interest;
 - means adapted for generating map information relating to the primary location information; and
 - means adapted for initiating receipt of the secondary location information in accordance with the geographic area of interest.
- [c10] The system of asset location of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for generating the secondary location information in accordance with satellite data obtained from an associated global positioning system.
- [c11] The system of asset location of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for determining, in the tracking system, a location of the selected asset in accordance with data generated as a function of a strength of a signal associated with the secondary location information received therein.
- [c12] The system of asset location of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for determining a location of the selected asset in accordance with the secondary location data which is generated mathematically from a signal as-

sociated with the secondary location information as received by a plurality of associated receiving stations.

- [c13] The system of asset location of claim 8, further comprising:

means adapted for simultaneously monitoring a plurality of portable transmission system communications; and means adapted for generating fee data representative of each of a plurality of monitored portable data transmissions.

- [c14] The system of claim 13, further comprising means adapted for selectively communicating at least one of the primary and secondary location information to a law enforcement authority in order to track the asset that is determined to be stolen.

- [c15] A computer-readable medium of instructions for asset location, comprising:

instructions for linking at least one portable transmitter system with a selected asset;

instructions for initiating a cellular communication from the at least one portable transmission system to an associated device controller;

instructions for communicating to the device controller primary location information representative of a cellular area from which the cellular communication is made;

instructions for initiating a secondary location system in accordance with the location information; instructions for broadcasting secondary location information from the at least one portable transmission system; and instructions for receiving secondary location information into a tracking system.

- [c16] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 15 , further comprising:
 - instructions for comparing the primary location information with data of a geographic database so as to isolate a geographic area of interest;
 - instructions for generating map information relating to the primary location information; and
 - instructions for initiating receipt of the secondary location information in accordance with the geographic area of interest.
- [c17] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 15, further comprising instructions for generating the secondary location information in accordance with satellite data obtained from an associated global positioning system.
- [c18] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 15, further comprising instructions for determin-

ing, in the tracking system, a location of the selected asset in accordance with data generated as a function of a strength of a signal associated with the secondary location information received therein.

- [c19] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 15, further comprising instructions for determining a location of the selected asset in accordance with the secondary location data which is generated mathematically from a signal associated with the secondary location information as received by a plurality of associated receiving stations.
- [c20] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 15, further comprising:
instructions for simultaneously monitoring a plurality of portable transmission system communications; and
instructions for generating fee data representative of each of a plurality of monitored portable data transmissions.
- [c21] The computer-readable medium for asset location of claim 20, further comprising instructions for selectively communicating at least one of the primary and secondary location information to a law enforcement authority in order to track the asset that is determined to be stolen.

- [c22] A computer-implemented method for asset location comprising the steps of:
 - linking at least one portable transmitter system with a selected asset;
 - initiating a cellular communication from the at least one portable transmission system to an associated device controller;
 - communicating to the device controller primary location information representative of a cellular area from which the cellular communication is made;
 - initiating a secondary location system in accordance with the location information;
 - broadcasting secondary location information from the at least one portable transmission system; and
 - receiving secondary location information into a tracking system.
- [c23] The computer-implemented method of asset location of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:
 - comparing the primary location information with data of a geographic database so as to isolate a geographic area of interest;
 - generating map information relating to the primary location information; and
 - initiating receipt of the secondary location information in accordance with the geographic area of interest.

- [c24] The computer-implemented method of asset location of claim 22, further comprising the step of generating the secondary location information in accordance with satellite data obtained from an associated global positioning system.
- [c25] The computer-implemented method of asset location of claim 22, further comprising the step of determining, in the tracking system, a location of the selected asset in accordance with data generated as a function of a strength of a signal associated with the secondary location information received therein.
- [c26] The computer-implemented method of asset location of claim 22, further comprising the step of determining a location of the selected asset in accordance with the secondary location data which is generated mathematically from a signal associated with the secondary location information as received by a plurality of associated receiving stations.
- [c27] The computer-implemented method of asset location of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:
 - simultaneously monitoring a plurality of portable transmission system communications; and
 - generating fee data representative of each of a plurality

of monitored portable data transmissions.

- [c28] The computer-implemented method of claim 27, further comprising the step of selectively communicating at least one of the primary and secondary location information to a law enforcement authority in order to track the asset that is determined to be stolen.